

Remarks

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 5, 7-16, 18-23, 27-28, 31-36, 38-41, and 44-51 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 16, 27, 36, and 44 being the independent claims.

On behalf of the Applicant, the undersigned wishes to express appreciation to Examiner King for the courtesies extended during the interview conducted on November 16, 2004. During the interview on November 16, the subject matter of the pending independent claims in view of U.S. Patent Nos. 5,769,369 to Meinel (the Meinel reference), 4,844,387 to Sorgi et al. (the Sorgi reference), 4,779,922 to Cooper (the Cooper reference), and 3,091,886 to Nutting (the Nutting reference) was discussed. The Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

The Applicant notes that the amendments to the claims have been made to expedite prosecution. The Applicant does not acquiesce to the rejections and reserves the right to pursue original claims, cancelled claims, and new claims in a continuation application.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 30 and 33 include allowable subject matter.

Drawings

The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include reference number 173. Accordingly, Figure 5 (submitted herewith) has been

amended to include reference number 173. Additionally, Figure 5 has been amended to include reference number 159 (see discussion regarding the Specification below). Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's objection to the drawings has been rendered moot.

Specification

The specification was objected to because of an informality. Accordingly, paragraph [0031] of the specification has been amended to change the reference number for the first side of the first mount from 158 to 159. The Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's objection has been rendered moot. As indicated above, Figure 5 has been amended to include reference number 159.

The Objection To Claim 28 Has Been Rendered Moot

Claim 28 was objected to because of an informality. Accordingly, line 2 of claim 28 has been amended to recite "second" rather than "first" device. The Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's objection to claim 28 has been rendered moot.

Claims 15 and 28 Distinctly Claim The Invention

Claims 15 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter, which the Applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 15 has been amended to recite “the first mount is configured to removably retain the keyboard such that a plurality of keys of the keyboard are positioned to be used by a user.” Accordingly, claim 15 is directed to the apparatus alone.

Claim 28 has been amended to recite “the mount is configured to couple to an output device associated with the second device.” Accordingly, claim 28 is directed to the apparatus alone.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the examiner’s objections to claims 15 and 28 have been rendered moot.

The Claims Are Patentable Over The Cited References

Claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 16, 18-20, 27, 29, 31, 36, and 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the Nutting reference. Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 11, 13-15, 17, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the Cooper reference. Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 11-15, 16-19, 23, 27-29, 34-37, 40, 42, and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the Sorgi reference. Claims 1, 3-6, 8, 11-13, 16, 18-21, 23, 36, 38, 39, and 41-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the Meinel reference. Claims 27-29 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,918,841 to Sweere et al. (the Sweere reference) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,491,268 to Channer et al. (the Channer reference).

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite subject matter from original claims 2 and 5. Accordingly, as discussed during the interview, none of the Nutting reference, the Cooper

reference, the Sorgi reference, and the Meinel disclose or teach a device as claimed in independent claim 1 as amended. Thus, the Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 as amended is allowable over the Nutting reference, the Cooper reference, the Sorgi reference, and the Meinel reference. The Applicant also respectfully submits that claims 5 and 7-15 are allowable over the Nutting reference, the Cooper reference, the Sorgi reference, and the Meinel reference at least because of their dependence from independent claim 1. Although claims 9 and 10 have been withdrawn, they are currently amended to conform with amendments made to independent claim 1. Additionally, claims 2-4 and 6 have been canceled.

Independent claim 16 has been amended to recite subject matter from claim 17. Accordingly, as discussed during the interview, none of the Nutting reference, the Cooper reference, the Sorgi reference, and the Meinel reference disclose or teach a device as claimed in independent claim 16 as amended. Thus, the Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 16 as amended is allowable over the Nutting reference, the Cooper reference, the Sorgi reference, and the Meinel reference. The Applicant also respectfully submits that claims 18-23 are allowable over the Nutting reference, the Cooper reference, the Sorgi reference, and the Meinel reference at least because of their dependence from independent claim 16. Claim 17 has been canceled.

Independent claim 27 has been amended to recite subject matter from claim 30, which was indicated by the Examiner as including allowable subject matter. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 27 as amended includes allowable subject matter. The Applicant also respectfully submits that claims 28 and 31-35 are allowable at least because of their dependence from independent claim 27. Claims 29-30 have been canceled.

Independent claim 36 has been amended to recite subject matter from claim 37.

Accordingly, as discussed during the interview, none of the Nutting reference, the Sorgi reference, and the Meinel reference disclose or teach a device as claimed in independent claim 36 as amended. Thus, the Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 36 as amended is allowable over the Nutting reference, the Sorgi reference, and the Meinel reference. The Applicant also respectfully submits that claims 38-41 are allowable over the Nutting reference, the Sorgi reference, and the Meinel reference at least because of their dependence from independent claim 36. Claim 37 has been canceled.

New Claims

Claims 44-51 have been added to the application. Independent claim 44 includes subject matter of claims 27 and 33, which was indicated by the Examiner as including allowable subject matter. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 44 includes allowable subject matter. The Applicant also respectfully submits that claims 45-51 are allowable at least because of their dependency from claim 44.

Information Disclosure Statement

It appears that at least some of the references included in the Information Disclosure Statement submitted by the Applicant on July 2, 2004 may not have been considered by the Examiner. Accordingly, submitted herewith is a copy of the Information Disclosure Statement as submitted on July 2, 2004 along with the date-stamped postcard as evidence of the filing. The

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider all of the references included in the Information Disclosure Statement and provide an indication of such consideration.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed or rendered moot. The Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that such objections and rejections be withdrawn. The Applicant believes that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that further personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

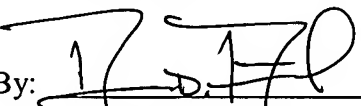
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1283.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

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